Dick, gallon

12/24/75

~~M~~ Martin Luther King interest has never been as high. This situation seems to be changing fast. The real reason is not apparent. The FBI may be afraid of what the Church committee can stumble upon but they know damned well that I have a case in court in which I have already obtained enough for the filing of criminal charges and civil actions of fantastic proportions. I'm not saying they'll prosecute themselves and don't believe it will happen. I'm merely telling you what I have already and we haven't been before the judge yet. I also have proof of what they are suppressing called for in the request and the complaint. With any attention, the unpredictable, it can blow the whole thing apart. Right now with the success we've had the the Republican judges in the 6th circuit and a thorough appeal on file there the FBI situation is tougher.

Briefly, what I have to date includes the FBI's own lab work proving all the allegations against Ray from them to have been knowingly and totally false.

I had a nice arrangement with an honest reporter on the Times but as soon as he got cleared the fink national desk took over, is making a big production of it and I suspect will result in a series of stories that can range from the nasty to the sycophantic.

If I am right this is one of the things that will raise clashing first-amendment rights, with straight commercial considerations, whose prior work and who is engaging in improper or illegal commercial activities/competition/ restraints.

CBS is doing the same thing, as now scheduled 1/2/76. It will be their duplication of my copyrighted work, pretendedly their investigation and coming mostly from the court proceedings which are from this copyrighted work and the work I did subsequently.

They have even followed behind me in making FOIA requests. (Freedom of Information law)

I made clear to them that I would not in any way give away any rights I have. It is on an agreed-to tape of which they have returned the tapes to me. I have them in the envelope in which they were returned.

However, I suspect they'll hem and haw and agonize and agree with the government in the end. My point is that I think there will be some interesting legal passibilities that if real and there is willing, industrious counsel could mean lots of $$$.

There is a movie in what I've done, regardless of what happens. More if we get Ray off. At least one, as of my last knowledge, was being stolen. I can't do anything about it. And Peter Shepherd represents Anson, the ripoff artist. He placed the book with Bantam. I gave Bantam pre-publication notice. What I can do I don't know but scholars are spotting what I've expected and some of the ways of trying to circumvent it are pretty amateurish. When I'm time I'll read the book. I've seen enough to be confident, about fact, not doing anything.

But to the degree anything like this can be, all the original King/Ray work is mine. What is not copyrighted is my work product. Any thoughts? Best,